

Council 5618
April 2026



Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council 5618, Altamonte Springs FL

The Pinta Log



Acting Grand Knight's Message to the Council

By Deputy Grand Knight, Joseph Pocius



Worthy Brother Knights,

As we enter into Holy Week, the most sacred time in our Church year, we walk with Jesus through His Passion, Death, and ultimate Resurrection. These days — from Palm Sunday's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, through the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, the agony of Good Friday, to the silence of Holy Saturday — invite us to reflect deeply on Christ's infinite love and sacrifice for each one of us.

In the Knights of Columbus, we are called to imitate that sacrificial love through our pillars of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. This Holy Week, let us renew our commitment to serve as Christ served: offering our time in prayer, participating fully in the Triduum liturgies, and supporting one another in faith and charity. May we draw strength from the sacraments and allow the events of this week to transform our hearts.

During this sacred time, we also remember our brothers and their families in prayer. Please join me in lifting up our Grand Knight George Meyer, who recently suffered a stroke. May God grant him healing, strength, and peace, and may He comfort and sustain George's family with His loving presence during this difficult time. Let us storm heaven with our prayers for his full recovery.

I want to thank all of you for your hard work and participation at our Lenten Fish Fries this past month. From Tom Przybyla March 28th email, we served a record total of 1,917 dinners for FY2026 which was the highest since 2012. That is incredible. With happy faces from customers and hard work from our Brother Knights and families, its beautiful through Gods grace seeing our Brothers showing Charity, Fraternity and Unity at these dinners.

As our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, taught us, we are stronger together in faith. This Holy Week, may we grow closer to Our Lord and to one another, preparing our hearts to celebrate the joy of Easter with renewed hope.

Wishing you and your families a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a blessed Easter.

Vivat Jesus,

Joseph Pocius,
Deputy Grand Knight

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Important Dates - Looking Ahead:

- **Wed Apr 1** – Clean the World 1:00 pm
- **Thu Apr 2** – Holy Thursday
- **Fri Apr 3** – Good Friday
- **Sat Apr 4** – Holy Saturday
- **Sun Apr 5** – Easter
- **Tue Apr 7** – Officer's Planning Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Sat Apr 11** – Sharing Saturday 9:00 am
- **Mon Apr 13** – Assembly #1667 Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Tue Apr 14** – Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- **Sat Apr 18** – Rosary 4 Life 8:45 am
- **Sat Apr 18** – State Hockey Challenge 10:30 am
- **Thu Apr 30** – Pinta Log Content Deadline
- **Sat May 2** – Family Picnic/Honor Altar Servers

Photo Contributors: **Roger Copeland, Tom Poppell, Tom Weninger & Tom Przybyla**

Editor: **Nick Leon**

Council website:

www.bishopgradykofc.org

View pictures from Council events from our [Facebook group page](#)



Dear Brothers!

Now that we have begun the month of April celebrating the sacred days of Holy Week, let us immerse ourselves in the Paschal Mystery which reveals God's boundless love and triumph over sin and death. This is our time to unite as Knights, living these mysteries with fervent faith, and emerging as joyful heralds of the Risen One, sharing His goodness through charity, fraternity, and unwavering witness.

As we carry the light of the Resurrection, we cannot ignore the shadows that currently stretch across our world. To be a Knight of the Risen One in 2026 is to be a Knight of Peace in a time of profound conflict. The Holy Father has tirelessly reminded us that "every war leaves our world worse than it was before." As we contemplate the wounds of Christ during Holy Week, we see them mirrored in the wounds of displaced families, orphaned children, and those living under the terror of bombardment. Our prayer for peace is not a passive wish; it is a spiritual battle. Here is our answer:

Living the Passion with Courage and Service

Holy Week calls us to accompany Jesus from Palm Sunday's triumphant entry through the agony of Gethsemane, the scourging, crowning with thorns, and the Cross. The Servant Songs of Isaiah proclaim the anointed one who brings good news to the oppressed, binds the brokenhearted, and proclaims liberty, yet endures suffering for our sake. (Is 61:1) In the Passion narratives, we see Christ, "obedient to the point of death" exalted by the Father. (Phi 2:6-11) As Knights, founded by Blessed Michael McGivney to support families in trial, we live this by our principle of charity: aiding the vulnerable (unborn children, disaster victims, persecuted Christians) as you have done generously, in our parish, carry your cross with Christ's strength, offering concrete relief that echoes His mercy.

Fraternity in the Triduum: From Darkness to Dawn

Through the Last Supper, betrayal, and burial, Jesus institutes the Eucharist and priesthood, holding fast as our High Priest who sympathizes with our weaknesses. On Holy Saturday, we vigil in hope. Knights, our council embody fraternity, gathering for prayer, formation, and mutual support, just as the Apostles did before Pentecost. Pope Leo XIV reminds us: "The Church has always been called to be a sign of hope through the proclamation of the Gospel in words as well as in actions," especially for those in hardship. Let Holy Thursday's washing of feet inspires our service; Good Friday's silence, our prayerful solidarity.

Joyful Heralds of the Resurrection

The first words of the Risen Christ to His disciples were: "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). He did not say this to a world that was calm, but to a group of men hiding in fear. As Knights, we refuse to hide. We share the goodness of the Risen One by being men of reconciliation. We believe that the empty tomb is the ultimate proof that death and destruction do not have the final word. Our joy is to proclaim Christ's victory over death, and to uphold hope against the despair of war.

In Christ,

**Fr. Duberney Rodas G,
Chaplain**

Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.

(John 20:21)

Prayer Request for WGK George Meyer

Dear Worthy Brothers,

Please join us in prayer for the healing of our Brother and Grand Knight, George Meyer, as well as for his wife, Jan, and their children.

*Loving God, we pray that you will comfort George in his suffering, lend skill to the hands of his healers, and bless the means used for his cure. Give George such confidence in the power of your grace that, even when he is afraid, he may put his whole trust in you, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

Please continue to keep the Meyer family in your prayers during this time.

Officers Planning Meeting - Tuesday April 7

From the Editor



Our Council's next Officer's Planning meeting will occur on **Tuesday, April 7**. It will be held virtually using [Microsoft Teams from 7:00 - 8:00 pm](#). An email with the meeting link will be distributed a few days before the meeting. The primary purpose of this meeting is to take care of details that don't interest members, entertain new ideas, programs and initiatives, and agree upon agenda details for the next Council meeting.

All Knights are invited to participate with this meeting. All council officers, directors and chairpersons are expected to participate with these meetings to fulfill the responsibilities of their position. Financial reports will be presented and all new business requests must be presented at this meeting, discussed and if needed, voted on at the monthly Council meeting.

Officer Nominations, Duties & Elections Timing By Tom Przybyla

Nominations for officers are now open for the 2026 - 2027 period. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please contact a nominating committee member, which consists of **Roger Copeland, Tom Galaida, and me**. Officer elections for the 2026 - 2027 period will occur at our **June, 9, 2026 Council meeting**. The nominating committee has compiled a slate of officer nominations for all Council officer positions.

The timing for the election process is:

- Read in the proposed slate of new officers in the April Council meeting.
- The slate will be published again in the May Pinta Log newsletter.
- Elections will occur in the June Council meeting, the new officers are inducted in June and start in July.

You can view a description the duties and responsibilities of Council Officers and Directors from this link: [Officer and Director Duties/Responsibilities](#)

If you are interested in a position and/or would like to be added to the nominating list, please contact a nominating committee member or myself.

Bishop Thomas J Grady Council 5618		
2026 - 2027 Slate of Officer Nominations		
Nominating Committee:	Roger Copeland, Tom Galaida, Tom Przybyla	
Officer Position	2025 - 2026 Officers	2026 - 2027 Nominations
Grand Knight	George Meyer	Joe Pocius
Deputy Grand knight	Joe Pocius	Nick Leon
Chancellor	Ricardo Diaz	Ricardo Diaz
Treasurer	Les Philip	Les Philip
Financial Secretary (appointed, not elected)	Richard Hosler	Richard Hosler
Warden	Tom Poppell	Tom Poppell
Recorder	Tom Weninger	Tom Weninger
Advocate	Ed Gallagher	Ed Gallagher
Inside Guard	David Henriquez	Patrick Cavanaugh/ Oscar Archevala
Outsided Guard	Alan Blackmon	Alan Blackmon
Trustee 3	Tom Galaida	George Meyer
Trustee 2	Tom Przybyla	Tom Galaida
Trustee 1	Roger Copeland	Tom Przybyla
Lecturer (appointed, not elected)	Lou Elrose	
Chaplain (appointed, not elected)	Fr. Duberney Rodas	Fr. Duberney Rodas

Each Year, one Trustee is elected for a 3-year term (usually the out-going Grand Knight). After the elections, the incumbent 3 year and 2-year Trustees (if willing), move into the 2-year and then the 1-year terms.

Clean the World - Wed April 1

Our Council participates with a volunteer event at Clean the World every 1st Wednesday of the month, from 1 pm – 3 pm. **The next event will occur on Wednesday, April 1.** You will be sorting out the soap bars and plastic bottle amenities that Clean the World collects from the hospitality industry and recycles. You may also pack the recycled soap into boxes that are then distributed via global NGOs, such as The WASH Foundation. Bring your family, especially teenagers who need service hours. Clean the World is located near the Orlando International Airport at: [2544 E Landstreet Rd Ste 600, Orlando, FL 32824](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2544+E+Landstreet+Rd+Ste+600,+Orlando,+FL+32824/@28.5385,-81.3095,15z) (click to open a map). For more information: <https://cleantheworld.org/doing-good/#volunteer>. You can view all of the pictures from this event on our website's [Home page](#).



Serve Saturday at the Sharing Center - Sat April 11

Our Council participates with **Serve Saturday** at the **Sharing center** every **2nd Saturday of the month**, serving from **9:00 am – 12:00 pm Noon**.

Our next event is April 11. If you can attend our next event, please sign up by emailing [Tom Przybyla](#) at . Bring your family, especially teenagers who need service hours. There were 5 volunteers at the February event. View all of the pictures on our website's [Home page](#).

The Sharing center is located at: [600 North Highway 17-92, Suite 130 Longwood, FL 32750](https://www.google.com/maps/place/600+North+Highway+17-92,+Suite+130+Longwood,+FL+32750/@28.5385,-81.3095,15z) (click to open a map)



Join us for a Saturday of service
helping our community in need!



Council Meeting - Tuesday April 14



Our Council's next Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 14** at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria. A Rosary will be recited starting at 6:00 pm in the Cafeteria. Our Lecturer, Lou Elrose, will be providing a delicious meal after the meeting. Please attend this meeting and support our activities. Please read last month's Council meeting minutes before this meeting (if you need the password to the Council's minutes page, send an email to [Nick Leon](#) at this [LINK](#)).

Rosary 4 Life - Saturday April 18

On Saturday, April 18, our monthly rosary for LIFE will be held in front of [All Women's Abortion Clinic, 431 Maitland Ave, Altamonte Springs](#). It will commence after the 8 am Mass. We calculate that we should begin about 8:45 am. Please join us Saturday. These rosaries will repeat monthly on the third Saturday (mark your calendars accordingly) at 8:45 am.

FL State KOFC Hockey Shootout Challenge - Sat April 18

Looking for Brothers to help volunteer with this Hockey Shootout Challenge on Saturday 4/18 at St Peter Catholic School's Gymnasium in Deland from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. If interested in helping out please reach out to our Hockey Chairman & Acting GK, [Joe Pocius](#).

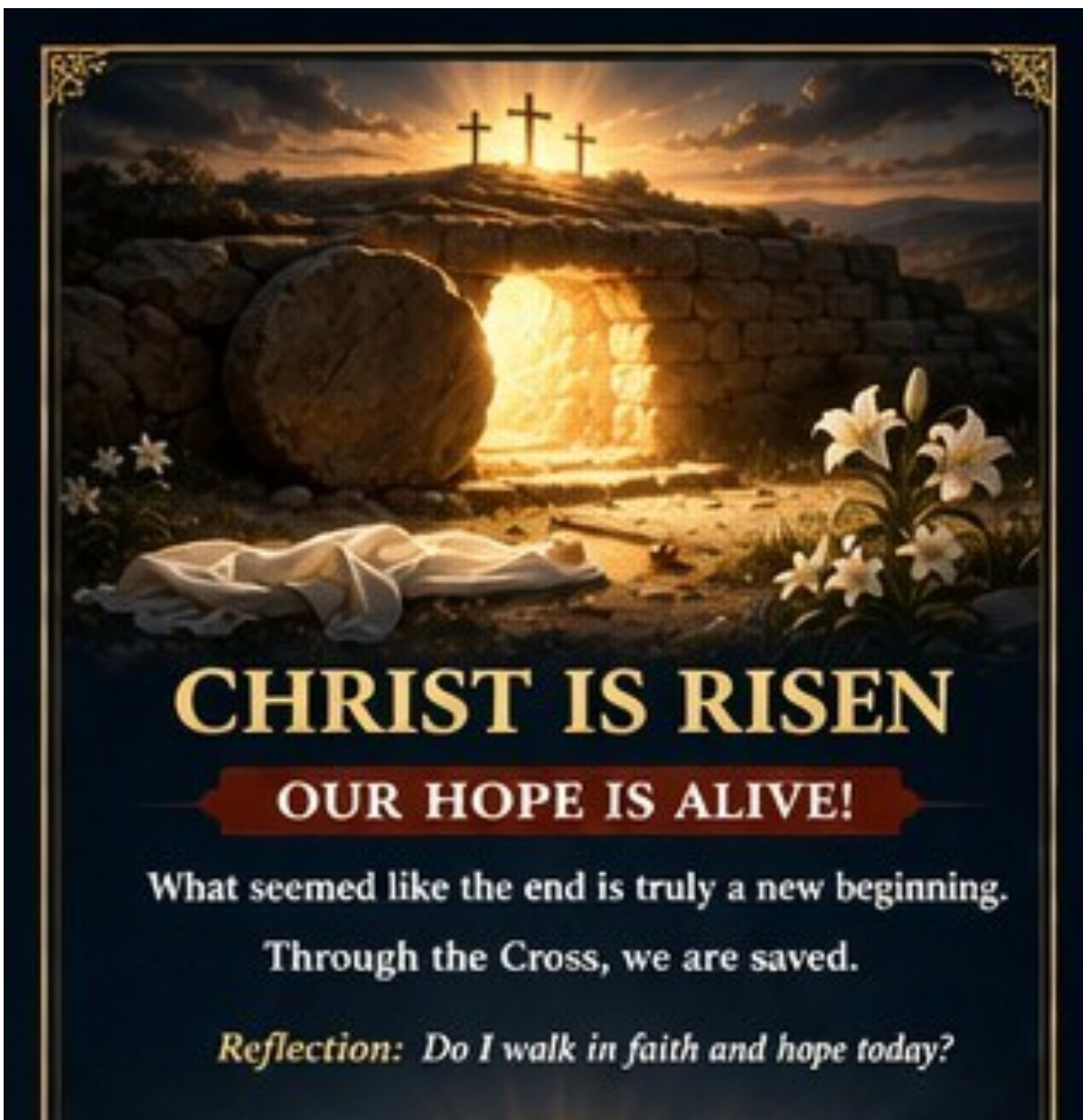
Family Picnic/Honor Altar Servers - Sat May 2

Mark your calendars—our Council's Family Picnic will be held on Saturday May 2. The picnic will be at Spring Valley Park under the pavilion. Community Director and Youth Chairman **Ed Gallagher** will present awards to graduating Altar Servers.

The picnic is FREE, but everyone is expected to bring their favorite dish - appetizer, salad, beans, dessert, etc. All brothers and their family members are invited; in addition, you can invite any prospective Knights and their family members. More details will be sent out in an email.

If you have any questions, please contact [David Weisman](#) or 407-831-2662.

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY, ALLELUIA!



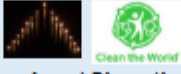
2025 - 2026 Annual Calendar Schedule of Events: [Annual Calendar](#)

Upcoming Council Events: Click on the link to view more details: [Upcoming Events](#)



April 2026

The Pinta Log Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1  Tenebrae/ Clean the World	2  Holy Thursday	3  Good Friday	4 Holy Saturday
5  Happy Easter!	6	7  Virtual Officer's Planning Meeting	8	9	10	11  Sharing Center Serve Saturday
12  Divine Mercy Sunday	13  1667 Assembly Meeting	14  Council Meeting	15	16	17	18  Rosary 4 Life / State KofC Hockey Shootout
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30  Pinta Log Content Deadline		

- Check our Council's website for up-to-the-minute information on new events or changes to scheduled events. Add the site to your browser's 'Favorites' for quick access.
- If you have a story you would like to be considered for inclusion in *The Pinta Log*, please submit the article by email to: [Nick Leon](#)

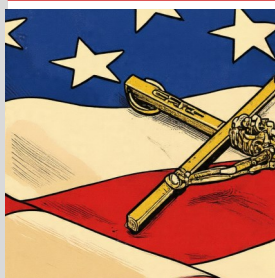
The content deadline for the **May** edition is **Thursday April 30**.

Submission does not guarantee your article will be published.

Attendance Drawing



The winner of the last month's \$75 pot was **David Weisman**, and he was not present. Congratulations! The Attendance Drawing is a program that encourages our Council Knights to come to our Council meetings. The pot for our next month's meeting will contain **\$100**. You could be the next winner! But, **you need to be present at the meeting to win!** If there is no winner, the pot increases by \$25 each month to a maximum of \$150. **Ed Gallagher** won the 50/50 drawing! — \$54! It was Ed's lucky day! Congratulations!



Dear Brother Knights,

Since 2018 my fellow volunteers and I have been putting on Knights/Veterans Family Communion Events at St Mary Magdalen Church. We have hosted almost 500 communions in the course of the events. We have been having the events celebrating Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Patriot Day (9-11), and Veteran's Day. Getting Knights and Veterans and their families together for Communions on or near Patriotic Holidays is a worthwhile activity, in accordance with the National Eucharistic Revival initiative, and promotes fellowship among Knights and Veterans. I want to get the word out to all councils and 4th degree assemblies in Florida about these events. I would be happy to share our methods and information with everyone interested in putting on these events all over the state, in K of C Councils, and 4th degree assemblies.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND: Sunday, May 24, 2026 at the 10am Mass at St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND: Sunday, July 05, 2026 at the 10am Mass at St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

Jim Coppens, Founder,

Knights'/Veterans' Family Communion Events, St. Mary Magdalen Church,
407.261.0914, coppensjh@gmail.com

Florida State Council Charity Raffle

By Don Holzemer



Click on the image to open a flyer.

At our last council meeting, District Deputy Shaw presented us with an opportunity to raise funds for our council. Florida State KOFC Charities (with assistance from Florida State Council) is holding a raffle with the drawing to be held May 23rd at the Florida State Convention.

Each raffle book contains four tickets. Suggested donation is 3.00/ticket or 10.00 per book. There is also a solicitor ticket at the end of each book (Solicitor must be an individual so you cannot name the Council as a solicitor). This allows the solicitor of the tickets to be eligible for a couple of early bird drawings. The first one is in December of this year (\$250) and the second one is in March of next year (\$400).

The benefit to our council is that the council needs to only submit 6.00 per book and can retain the balance for our council projects.

I have over 100 books of tickets so I would like to get them into your hands as soon as possible. Please email / text me with how many books you would like and we can work out how to get them to you (click on email link; phone number below.) Checks should be made payable to KC 5618 and sent to me at 636 Mariner Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.

Don Holzemer

Financial Secretary Emeritus

Bishop Thomas J Grady Council 5618

407-461-6446



My Brothers in Faith,

This meditation is from Word Among Us March 24. ***We have sinned in complaining against the Lord. (Numbers 21:7)***

How easy it can be to forget all that God has done for us! Look at today's first reading, for example. The Israelites had seen God perform countless signs and wonders as he rescued them from slavery and led them toward the Promised Land. But when faced with the hunger and thirst of their long sojourn in the desert, they questioned whether God cared for them at all. It took an outbreak of deadly snakes to get them to finally repent!

But what God did next was curious. Yes, he gave them a way to be healed from the snakes' bites—by having them gaze upon a bronze serpent that Moses had mounted on a pole. But he didn't make the snakes go away! Wouldn't you expect God to get rid of the threat altogether, now that the people had turned back to him?

Maybe, but maybe not. The fact that God allowed the snakes to remain shows us that he didn't send them just to punish his people for complaining against him. He didn't want to just shut them up. He had deeper and more important goals in mind. He wanted to teach them more about what it means to live by faith in him. He wanted them to learn that they could trust him, even in those times when danger was all around them.

Fast-forward to today, and we can see that we're not very different from the Israelites. We, too, can be tempted to complain about the challenges of life—especially when "snakes" show up to make things worse. But we have something even more powerful than a bronze serpent to gaze upon. We have the cross of Christ, the greatest symbol of God's love and power to help us overcome evil and sin. We have the testimony of the Son of God, who endured the greatest of evils yet never lost faith in his Father—and who was raised up because he trusted in the Lord!

So, the next time you want to grumble about your life, lift up your eyes to the cross. The next time you feel surrounded by snakes, fix your eyes on Christ crucified. Let him show you how to live in trust and how to walk by faith. Let him show you that no force in heaven above or on earth below can ever separate you from the love of God!

Prayer: "Jesus, help me to keep my eyes fixed on your cross!"

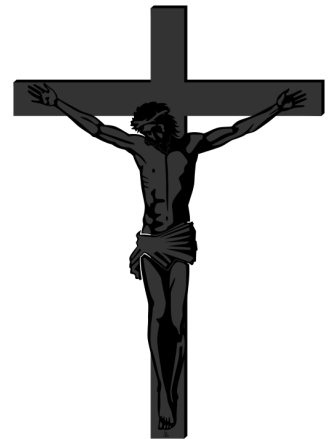
Everyone of us deals with snakes in our lives, having to deal with the challenges of everyday life: health worries for yourself or loved ones, praying to get enough volunteers to participate in an event, money, or job issues, stresses that we are experiencing.

These are the times when we need to ask our Lord to answer our prayers. We ask because we trust in His word ("Ask and you shall receive") and we believe He will answer our prayers. Believe, Ask, and Trust, with expectant faith knowing that He is a merciful God who loves you.

Ask for everything you need and ask often. Depend on the Lord to help you with you or your loved ones' lives.

I hope that you participate in all 3 of this Holy Week's Masses. God would love to see you there and hear your prayer requests. May God bless you and your family and may you experience a Happy and Blessed Easter.

**Tom Przybyla,
Faith Director**





Brothers, with great joy I want to advise you that as of this morning, we raised \$101,764 (a new record). Of that, Bishop Grady Council raised 12,080.

As you are aware, I set our goal at 20,000. It is achievable...difficult? Absolutely. But Achievable. YES. On to next year...6-MAR 2027 Bishop Moore High School 9AM

On 12-May 2026 Prolife Action Ministry (PLAM) will be hosting it's annual fundraising Banquet at:

Calvary Orlando

1199 Clay Street

Winter Park

Doors open at 6:15 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM.

The Knights are sponsoring a table. We have four seats remaining. Currently those registered are:

Palm Dinner

12-May-26

Taglia 2

Rasch 2

Philip 2

First come first serve. To register, contact Jamie Taglia at 407/492-0329 or jtaglia@gmail.com

On 5-APR we will celebrate Easter Sunday. Scheduled Easter services for 2026 including a 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, and Sunday masses on April 5 at 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. Good Friday services on April 3 feature stations and passion services starting at 12:30.

Remember, the THIRD SATURDAY of each Month we pray the rosary in front of All Women's Health (Abortion) Clinic. We begin at 9AM.

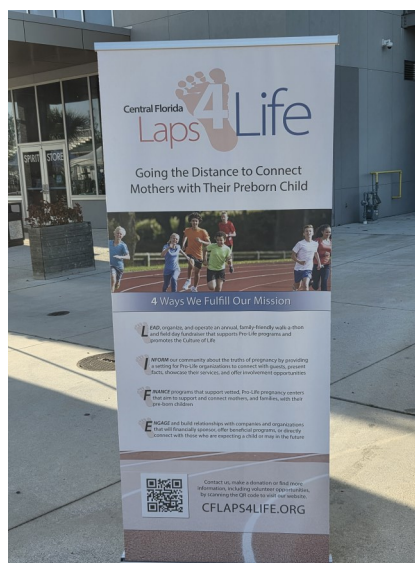
Vivat Jesus,

James J Taglia, PFN

Life Director

<http://www.cf4laps4life.org>

[Jtaglia@gmail.com](mailto:jtaglia@gmail.com) (407) 492-0329





Brothers,

Trying to achieve financial strength and stability can feel overwhelming, especially when life is already full. This month, I want to share a simpler way to think about it: holistic financial wellness. You can work toward this goal by developing an overall financial strategy and determining how Knights of Columbus products can be a part of that foundation.

A good place to start is protecting your family through life insurance. Term life coverage can help with temporary needs, while whole life coverage can last your entire lifetime and build guaranteed cash value over time. Next, let's think about retirement. Whether it's years away or right around the corner, having a strategy for income in retirement matters.

The Knights of Columbus offers solutions that can be part of an overall plan you feel confident about. It's also important to prepare for the unexpected. Thinking ahead about how your family would handle an extended care need or a disruption in income due to disability is part of protecting what you have worked hard to build. The Knights has products to help ensure your family's life will not be financially disrupted in either case.

Attaining financial wellness doesn't need to feel overwhelming. You can start right away by simply using our life insurance calculator at www.kofc.org/calculator. With a few key details, it will help you assess your insurance needs. If you have any questions, please contact your agent to schedule a time to meet.

Thank you!

The Knights of Columbus and its agents are not authorized to provide financial planning, legal or tax advice.

Life insurance, annuities, long term care insurance and disability income insurance is offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510. Cash value growth is gradual and may take time to accumulate. Guarantees are based on the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

Access to the policy's cash values is through loans and withdrawals and will reduce the policy's cash value and death benefit, may result in a taxable event, and could cause the policy to lapse if not properly managed. Policy loans accrue interest.



Eric M. Monte, FIC
Field Agent

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Dear Worthy Brothers and Sir Knights,

For those of you who are interested in joining us in the 4 th Degree, also known as the Patriotic Degree, we have two upcoming exemplifications that you can attend.

♦ **The first one is on May 9th at St. John the Evangelist Church in Naples, FL.** The tentative schedule is: registration at 9:30 a.m.; the Exemplification ceremony at 11 a.m.; Vigil Mass at 3 p.m.; and the banquet at 4 p.m. All applications for the Exemplification and banquet reservations must be received by April 24, 2026.

♦ **The second exemplification will be on June 27th in Davie FL. This exemplification will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. It will be held at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church in Davie.** Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by the ceremony at 11 a.m.; Mass at 1 p.m.; and a banquet luncheon at 2 p.m. Retiring Miami Archbishop Most Rev. Thomas Wenski will be the honoree. An impressive guest list is gathering for the event, led by Supreme Master Michael McCusker and Supreme Director and Past State Deputy Scott O'Connor. The registration deadline is Friday,

June 12, 2026. Candidate fee for either one is \$90.00 which includes the banquet, Spouses are encouraged to attend the ceremony at no additional cost. However, there is a \$50.00 fee for the banquet. For a Priest joining the 4 th Degree, the fee is \$50.00.

Sir Knights who took the Fourth Degree prior to 2025 are also invited to experience what stresses the importance of becoming a Patriotic Catholic Citizen.

If you are interested in attending either of these exemplifications, please call, text or email me for more information.

Vivat Jesus,

Pete Ramondetta, Faithful Navigator

407-463-5816 | pramondetta@gmail.com

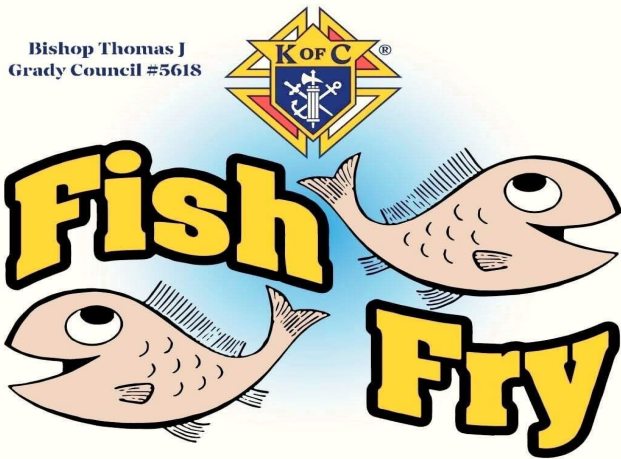
Brothers Celebrating April Birthdays

Apr 2	George F Meyer	Apr 4	James H Coppens	Apr 20	Robert W Schmidt
Apr 2	Michael S Vitale	Apr 10	Mathew E Fisher	Apr 23	Patrick M Braun
Apr 2	Jason B Wright	Apr 12	Michael J Maciejewski	Apr 29	David Godzisz
Apr 3	Roger A Repstien	Apr 14	James P Panico	Apr 29	John Paul D'sa
Apr 3	Angel G Retana	Apr 15	Antoney J Manipadam	Apr 30	Peter C Markusic
Apr 4	Dante F Farina	Apr 17	Manuel O Bejarano	Apr 30	Nicholas A Leon
Apr 4	Joseph Spinella	Apr 18	Deacon Gerard H Kelly		
Apr 4	Joe M Frank	Apr 20	John J Bowers		

Happy Birthday Brother Knights!

Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Results

By Tom Przybyla



God is merciful and kind; He answers our prayers. All glory, praise and honor to God for helping the volunteers from our Council, the CCW and Men's Club to conduct a very successful Lenten Fish Fry Dinner this year. Thank you so much to our volunteers and our supporters of these 6 dinners. Thanks to everyone's efforts, our net proceeds for this year's dinners are approximately \$10,668.66 (pending receipt of final expenses). All these funds will be donated to benefit our Council's many designated charities.

Our overall revenue this year was more than last year. Through our continuing efforts to minimize expenses, the total expense amounts have decreased each of the last 3 years. Here's some statistics for this year's fish fry dinners:

We served a total of 1,917 dinners, which was 291 more than 2025. This is the highest number of dinners served since we started keeping records in 2012. The last highest number of dinners served was 1,669 in 2024. Our higher numbers may be attributed to keeping our prices the same for 3 years, Nick Leon's promotions of the dinners through our social media pages (Facebook & Instagram), more promotion/communication of the dinners from the office, and the efforts of all our volunteers serving our customers with a smile and kindness and providing them with a delicious homemade dinner every week for 6 weeks! [Home page.](#)

All glory and thanksgiving to God for his kindness, mercy and his help that allowed us to be successful, and I thank everyone who worked and attended these Fish Fry Dinners. May God bless you!



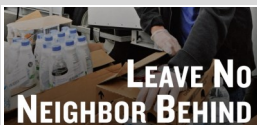
Knight/Family of the Month Spotlight



Picture #1: Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Knight of the Month award for February to Frank Scarlata. Frank is a recent addition to our Council. He immediately became a regular meeting attendee and got involved with the Fish Fry dinners jumping in with both feet volunteering to help make the calm chowder. His instant participation is a model of Knighthood and has impressed all of us. Frank is a blessing to this Council and we are grateful for his hard work and volunteerism! **Picture #2:** Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Family of the Month award for February to the Chuck & Maria Postel. Chuck and Maria are lifelong faithful Catholics. Chuck is a native Floridian, hailing from Miami. He became a Knight in 2020 and joined Council 17003. They moved to Central Florida in 2025 and Chuck transferred to our council just a few short months ago. He immediately got involved, attends Council meetings, and participates in service with his wife in: Winterfest burger booth, pancake breakfasts, all Fish Fry Dinners this year, and more. Their enthusiastic involvement is a true contribution to the work of Council 5618 and St Mary Magdalen Parish - and we are grateful for their gracious self donation! **Picture #3:** Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer & Deputy Grand Knight Joe Pocius welcomed 3 new brothers (Nathan Obitt, Shawn French, and Justin Hernandez) at our last month's meeting.

Congratulations Council 5618 Knights on your achievements!!

Leave No Neighbor Behind - Helping Hands Program



If you know of a brother Knight, Men's Club member or SMM parishioner who needs the labor to help with a small project, such as yard work, pressure washing, or small repairs, and they have purchased the needed supplies, please contact our Helping Hands program chair [Tom Poppell](#) or 407-920-2497 or [Tom Przybyla](#) or 407-460-8109. We need at least 2 weeks of lead time to make arrangements for the project.



Project: Recovery House Dedication- Msgr. Thompson Room
The attached photo is of our very own brothers, Tom Poppell (R) & Tom Weninger (L), who have been very hard at work making the Msgr. Ed Thompson room for the Recovery House project. We truly appreciate their dedication and their hard work on this initiative. You can view more photos on our [homepage](#).

Knights of Columbus Council 5618 Facebook By Roger Copeland

For all the newer Knights who are not aware of our Council's Facebook page. Below is the link to the site. Please feel free to share your Knight pictures on this site. That was the main reason it was created.

[K of C Council 5618 Pictures & etc.](#)

Exemplification Ceremony on Demand!



The Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity is now available on-demand.

Any current 1st or 2nd Degree Knights can advance to the 3rd Degree at any time of the day or night, 24/7, at your convenience.

To participate in the ceremony immediately, use the "On Demand" link and the 30-minute ceremony will start upon completion of your registration.

If you know of any Brother Knight who would like to advance to the Third Degree, please pass this information on to that Brother!

- Provide the required information including your council number (5618).
 - Please note that your family and friends are welcome to observe the ceremony.
- We look forward to you becoming a third-degree Knight of Columbus!

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

Weekly Exemplification Ceremonies

The Florida State Council presents weekly Exemplifications of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Click the links below to register new candidates or to have your 1st and 2nd Degree members to advance to the 3rd Degree.

The English Exemplifications are held weeks 1-4 on Thursday and the 4th Monday at 7:00 pm. The Spanish Exemplifications are held the 3rd Wednesday and the 5th Thursday at 8:00 pm.

[English Exemplifications](#)

[Spanish Exemplifications](#)

Donations for Needful Council Knights

By Tom Poppell



Brothers, we are assisting 3 families who are in need of food assistance by providing food and or gift cards from Publix, Winn Dixie or Aldi markets on a weekly basis.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Donations may be dropped off at Tom's Auto Repair (Proprietor is Tom Galaida) located at 151 Obrien Road. The telephone number is 407.831.8484. The food and or gift cards will be picked up and distributed weekly. Your gifts are greatly appreciated by the recipients.

Vivat Jesus, Brother [Tom Poppell](#) 407-920-2497

Shirt/Apron Embroidering

By Tom Przybyla

Gyslaine Brasil, one of the mothers of a basketball free throw and hockey shoot-out participant told me that she can embroider shirts and aprons with your name and logo (or whatever else you want) for a small fee:

- Name: \$5
- First time Logo setup charge: \$50
- Logo (after initial setup) and name: \$15
- Logo only (after initial setup): \$10

Gyslaine's contact information is: gyslainebrasil@gmail.com and 321-420-3544

Council Officers 2025 - 2026

Website Link: [Officers](#)

Chaplain	Fr. Duberney Rodas	Advocate:	Ed Gallagher
Grand Knight:	George Meyer	Lecturer:	Lou Elrose
Deputy Grand Knight:	Joe Pocius	Trustee 1 Year:	Roger Copeland
Chancellor:	Ricardo Diaz	Trustee 2 Year:	Tom Przybyla
Financial Secretary:	Richard Hosler	Trustee 3 Year:	Tom Galaida
Recorder:	Tom Weninger	Fraternal Benefits Advisor:	Eric Monte
Treasurer:	Les Philip	District Deputy, District 24:	Robert Shaw
Warden:	Tom Poppell	District Warden, District 24:	
Inside Guard:	David Henriquez (DJ)	Outside Guard:	Alan Blackmon

Faith In Action Program Directors & Chairmen 2025 - 2026

Faith Director:	Tom Przybyla	Community Director:	Ed Gallagher
Family Director:	Les Philip	Life Director:	James Taglia Jr
Membership Director:	Art Wright	Youth Chairman:	Ed Gallagher
Program Director	Joe Pocius	Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Chairman:	Tom Przybyla
Seminarian Chairman:	Emilio Regala	Card Ministry Chairman:	Wayne Fricker

Want to order your wife a Knight of Columbus name tag? You can order a name tag from **Don Holzemer** at our next business meeting or by sending him an email at amidon49@cfl.rr.com.

Wayne Fricker, our Council's chairman of the Card Ministry will send out cards of hope, sympathy, or condolence in our Council's name to brothers and families who are in distress, such as when we lose a brother, or we want to cheer up a brother or their loved one who might be homebound or who is in the hospital. If you would like Wayne to send out a card, please notify him via email: wayne.fricker@gmail.com or by phone: 407-745-9247 (cell).

If you know of a Brother, or relative of a Brother in distress, contact any of your Council officers. We have many people who need your prayers as they suffer severe medical challenges. They know your prayers are a blessing. Please continue to pray all the Knights and their loved ones who are in need of prayers, especially those people on our [Council's Prayer List](#), which is found on our website.



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"Sir Knight"

Roger J. Copeland P-GK
P-DGK, P-Chan., P-Trust., P-MSD
Photographer



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Council 5618 Brother Knights can advertise or convey a message to other Knights in the electronic version of the Pinta Log. You can purchase an ad for \$10 per quarter (3 month period) or \$35 for a 1 year period. Send your request to Nick Leon. Include the wording, picture (if applicable) and instructions for your ad in the email.